

the released genius of Helen Keller united to penetrate those barriers and produce a person who symbolized the vast potential resource of severely handicapped human beings. Miss Keller became an American ambassador-at-large to the world because she was unexcelled in interpreting the Nation's philosophy of respect for the unique inherent qualities of each individual.

Her recognition of this philosophy was never more eloquently expressed than when she said: "What I am, my country has made me. She has fostered the spirit which has made my education possible." At the same time, Helen Keller was deeply aware that she was miraculously fortunate to have been discovered by persons who were able to give her the priceless gift of language, which was what she needed to light up her extraordinary mind.

As the years passed, Miss Keller became increasingly concerned with those persons who were deprived of sight and hearing. Her later years were dedicated almost entirely to providing the deaf-blind with the kind of opportunities which had yielded such great benefit for her.

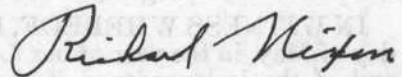
It is, therefore, fitting that we designate, as a memorial to Helen Keller, one week during which we may give special thought to the needs of our countrymen who are handicapped by the loss of sight and hearing. The minds of these people are forever imprisoned unless we muster every available resource to reach and rehabilitate them. Attaining this goal requires not only the use of such special techniques as lip reading, manual alphabet, and braille materials but the concern and commitment of all of us to let these people know they are a vital part of our society.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, in consonance with Senate Joint Resolution 99, do hereby designate the week beginning June 1, 1969, as Helen Keller Memorial Week.

Ante, p. 11.

I invite appropriate officers of the Federal, State, and local governments, the heads of voluntary and private groups, and all Americans everywhere to join in this observance. I urge them to find suitable means for expressing determination to cultivate a public understanding and sentiment in behalf of deaf-blind people and to devise a dynamic pattern for continuing their education, welfare and rehabilitation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-third.



Proclamation 3915

D-DAY TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY DAY

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Twenty-five years ago on June 6, Allied Forces under the leadership of Dwight David Eisenhower, made a successful landing on the beaches of Normandy. What happened on that day—and in the days and months immediately following—is now part of the acts of valor which have been the inspiration and often the salvation of Western

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civilization. The Sixth of June was transformed on that day from a date on the calendar to a historical landmark in the history of freedom.

The valiant leader and many of the valiant men who made victory possible by their efforts on that day are now gone. Their triumph, however, remains, for it was a triumph of the human spirit. Our Nation and nations of free men everywhere are forever grateful for the sacrifices made in Normandy. Twenty-five years have not diminished but have, rather, enhanced the profound importance of that day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 6, 1969, as D-Day Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies designed to commemorate the brave men living and dead who did so much to open this path to victory and peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and ninety-third.



Proclamation 3916

FLAG DAY AND NATIONAL FLAG WEEK, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

June 5, 1969

A Proclamation

It has become customary when referring to the flag of the United States of America to concentrate on what it represents. Every American has pledged allegiance to the flag "and to the Republic for which it stands." From time to time, however, it is necessary to remind ourselves not only of what the flag stands for but of what it is.

Our flag is a fragile but infinitely strong piece of cloth. What that piece of cloth stands for we all know. What we sometimes forget, however, is that it is precisely because those things which the flag represents are intangible that we need a flag at all. A flag is meant to be seen. Only when it is displayed does it stir us. Our ideals we can honor with our words and deeds; our flag must be honored by an essentially spiritual reaction to a visual stimulus.

On June 14, 1777, the Congress delineated the present form of the flag. These men gave it form; we give it life by displaying it, honoring it, and meditating on those qualities and attributes it so beautifully and proudly symbolizes.

In commemoration of the adoption of our flag, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved August 3, 1949 (63 Stat. 492), designated June 14 of each year as Flag Day and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation calling for its observance; by a joint resolution approved June 9, 1966 (80 Stat. 194), the Congress has requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the week in which June 14 occurs as National Flag Week and calling upon all citizens to display the flag of the United States on those days.

36 USC 157.

36 USC 157a.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning June 8, 1969, as National Flag Week, and I direct the appropriate